

DOCTOR WHO RADIO TIMES MAWDRYN UNDEAD

ORIGINAL BROADCAST – 1-9 February 1983
(including South edition regional variant photograph for Part 1)

ARTICLE – Issue Dated 29 January to 4 February 1983

LETTERS – Issue Dated 5-11 February 1983

Guess Who's coming back

THE Brigadier is back. He first appeared, as longstanding **Doctor Who** fans know, in 1968 – a long time before many of the programme's present audience were even born. The Brigadier brings a continuity to the series that even the Doctors themselves cannot match. Nicholas Courtney, who plays Brigadier Alistair Lethbridge-Stewart, explains that he's often invited (along with other members of the cast) to special *Doctor Who* conventions. Last year, for example, the Florida seminar produced a special badge: next to the Brigadier's portrait were the words, 'I survived four Doctors!' This year, of course, the number has risen to five, with Peter Davison now in the role.

The son of an Army officer who entered the diplomatic service, Nicholas Courtney actually joined the Army as part of his National Service training, though since he was a private he did not mix with the brigadiers! 'I certainly remember the good officers, though the chinless wonders left me cold.' The Ministry of Defence once congratulated Courtney for his portrayal of a typical British army brigadier.

Needless to say, he's often asked which Doctor he most enjoyed working with. Diplomatically Courtney answers: 'The one I was working with at the time.'

Mawdryn Undead, the new adventure (Tuesday and Wednesday BBC1), sees the Brigadier in a quite new and different role. He's semi-retired now (without the famous moustache) and teaching in a large public school. But his retreat from UNIT and the world is not destined to last long. The *Tardis* lands and the Brigadier and the young Doctor meet. Not surprisingly perhaps, it's the Doc-

tor who recognises the Brigadier first. The year is 1977 and the Doctor is faced with the difficult problem of a group of people who have been dangerously messing about with the laws of time and space because they want to become Time Lords. For only the second time in his career, the Brigadier goes up into space where he ends up meeting, of all people, himself in 1983.

It is a tricky role for Courtney because he has to play the two Brigadiers without there being a substantial time gap or any drastic change of character. The Brigadier is someone who doesn't change that much over the years. He is the reliable chap to whom the Doctor turns when he's back on earth. As Courtney enlarges: 'The Brigadier sees everything clearly and straightforwardly – his military mind is a good foil to the Doctor's scientific one. The Doctor confuses everyone with his knowledge of the Universe, the Brigadier is ordinary.'

The Brigadier is one of those quirky characters everyone warms to. Nicholas Courtney is touched – and astonished – at the amount of fan-mail he receives. *Doctor Who* has been recently transmitted in Italy. One enthusiastic viewer took the trouble to write to 'The Brigadier' in English, wanting to establish an Italian fan club.

The Brig's army might not be the largest in the world, but it would seem the Doctor needs his old friend: 'mostly because the Doctor genuinely likes him, but also because the Brigadier brings something to the stories set on earth. There is something extra scary when the monsters are creeping up your back yard.'

VICKY PAYNE

John Craven's
Back Pages



The Brigadier (Nicholas Courtney) by the Transmat Capsule. Front: Doctor Who (Peter Davison) and new assistant Turlough (Mark Strickson) with the vital control unit

6.50 pm

Doctor Who

starring **Peter Davison** in
Mawdryn Undead

Four-part story by **PETER GRIMWADE**
1: Who is Turlough?

Ibbotson.....STEPHEN GARLICK

Turlough.....MARK STRICKSON

Black Guardian....VALENTINE DYALL

Dr Runciman.....ROGER HAMMOND

Headmaster.....ANGUS MACKAY

Brigadier Lethbridge Stewart

NICHOLAS COURTNEY

Tegan.....JANET FIELDING

Nyssa.....SARAH SUTTON

Matron.....SHEILA GILL

Mawdryn.....DAVID COLLINGS

Script editor **ERIC SAWARD**

Designer **STEPHEN SCOTT**

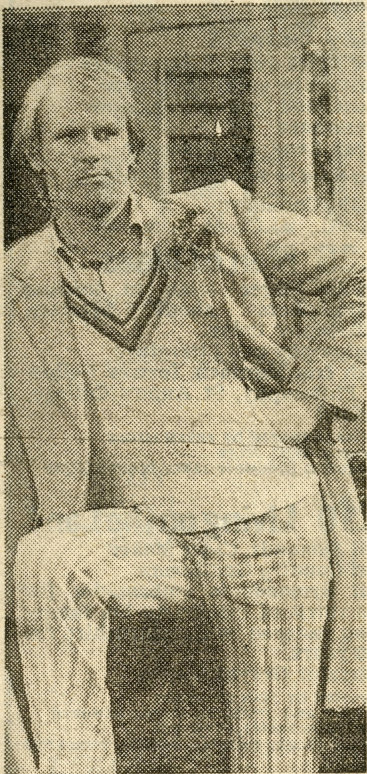
Producer **JOHN NATHAN-TURNER**

Director **PETER MOFFATT**

(Part 2 on Wednesday)

★ Subtitles on Ceefax page 170

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More time travel problems for the Doctor (Peter Davison) result in a reunion with old 'friends': 6.50



More time travel problems for the Doctor (Peter Davison) result in a reunion with old 'friends': 6.50

6.45 Doctor Who

starring Peter Davison in
Mawdryn Undead

Four-part story by PETER GRIMWADE

**2: What has happened to the
Brigadier?**

(For cast see Tuesday, page 48)

★ **Subtitles on Ceefax page 170**

6.50-7.15

Doctor Who

starring **Peter Davison** in
Mawdryn Undead

Four-part story by **PETER GRIMWADE**
3: Why is Mawdryn undead?

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Brigadier..... | NICHOLAS COURTNEY |
| Tegan..... | JANET FIELDING |
| Nyssa..... | SARAH SUTTON |
| Mawdryn..... | DAVID COLLINGS |
| Turlough..... | MARK STRICKSON |
| Black Guardian... | VALENTINE DYALL |
| First mutant..... | PETER WALMSLEY |
| Second mutant..... | BRIAN DARNLEY |
| Dr Runciman..... | ROGER HAMMOND |

Script editor **ERIC SAWARD**

Designer **STEPHEN SCOTT**

Producer **JOHN NATHAN-TURNER**

Director **PETER MOFFATT**

(Part 4 tomorrow at 6.45 pm)

★ Subtitles on Ceefax page 170

6.45 pm

Doctor Who

starring Peter Davison
in Mawdryn Undead

Last of a four-part story

by PETER GRIMWADE

Will the Black Guardian succeed?

(For cast see Tuesday, page 36)

★ Subtitles on Ceefax page 170

'Doctor When'

May I enquire as to the recent time travels of the Doctor? I have been much confused by *Doctor Who's* changing time-slots on BBC1. The first programme in the new series was on Monday 3 January, then on Wednesday. Suddenly the Doctor jumped to Tuesday for his next episode and finished his adventure the next day. Doesn't *Doctor Who*, as one of the BBC's long-standing favourite children's (and adults') serials, deserve a regular time-slot like the old much-missed Saturday-evening one? Or is this variety of days and times meant to be appropriate to the programme's theme?

By the way *Doctor Who* with

Peter Davison and company is as transporting as ever!

(Miss) Sophie Draper
St Andrews, Fife

Doctor Who will remain on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the current series. — LETTERS EDITOR

Warped sense of timing

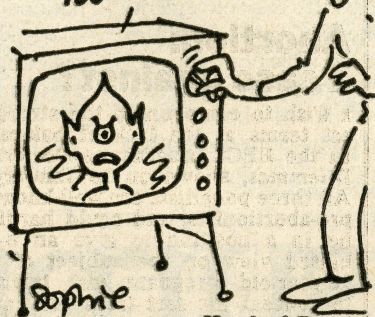
I know that it is of minor importance in these times of global uncertainty but, all things being relative, I was still very dismayed when, after watching Episode 3 of the *Doctor Who* story on BBC1 (11 January), I turned on to BBC2 for the film *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* only to find that it was already under way. After years of waiting, the invasion had begun without me!

There is precious little good science fiction on television at any time, and to have two eminently watchable programmes overlapping even for a minute seems a pity in a world dominated by snooker and Terry Wogan.

I don't wish to be too critical as this *SF Film Festival* is most welcome, not just for the excellent choice of films but also for the sensible time of transmission. However, I always supposed that where programmes were scheduled to end and begin concurrently on the two channels, the transmission of one would be delayed until a programme on the other channel had finished...

Kenneth Bishton
Wingerworth, Derbyshire

AND IF
YOU'VE JUST
JOINED US -
TOO LATE!



MALCOLM WALKER, Head of Presentation, Television, replies:

Mr Bishton is quite correct in believing that we try not to start a programme on BBC2 until the BBC1 programme has ended. Unfortunately on this occasion *Doctor Who* had to start and finish a little late because of some wayward timing during the rest of the evening. *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, however, had a lengthy opening credit sequence which made it possible for viewers to switch and not miss any of the essential plot or action of the film.